Agenda Date: 8/18/03 Agenda Item: VII B



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

Customer Assistance

IN THE MATTER OF EDDIE EBRAHIM,)	ORDER ADOPTING
PETITIONER v. UNITED WATER)	INITIAL DECISION
COMPANY, RESPONDENT)	
)	BPU Docket No. WC03010039U
)	OAL Docket No. PUC 3113-03

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On January 22, 2003, Eddie Ebrahim (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing in regard to a billing dispute with United Water New Jersey, Inc. (Respondent). On February 28, 2003, Respondent filed an answer denying the allegations therein.

On March 11, 2003, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Elinor R. Reiner.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and executed a Stipulation of Settlement. The settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On July 9, 2003, ALJ Reiner filed her Initial Decision with the Board, recommending that the settlement be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

The settlement provides, in part, that United Water New Jersey will provide Petitioner a credit of \$2,000.00. Petitioner will pay the remaining disputed amount of \$1,029.01 in monthly installments of \$75.00 each, in addition to continuing charges for ongoing service.

After review, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 8/19/03		BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:
	SIGNED JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT	
SIGNED		SIGNED
FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER		CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER
SIGNED		SIGNED
CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER		JACK ALTER COMMISSIONER
ATTEST:		
SIGNED		
KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY		

In the Matter of Eddie Ebrahim v. United Water New Jersey, Inc.

BPU Dkt. No. WC03010039U OAL Dkt. No. PUC 3113-03

SERVICE LIST

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Kent Papsun, Director Division of Customer Assistance Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102

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